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Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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17
ACTION CU-04

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R 290723Z JAN 76
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC (POLEMAN & GASSER)
SUBJ: AMERICAN SPECIALISTS THOMAS POLEMAN AND WILLIAM GASSER

POLEMAN AND GASSER SPOKE TO 45 AGRICULTURISTS AND FOOD SPECIALISTS IN EVENING PROGRAM ARRANGED BY AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE OF MALAYSIA ON TOPIC OF WORLD FOOD SUPPLY. WHILE BOTH MEN WIDELY KNOWLEDGEABLE IN FIELD AND GAVE GOOD ANSWERS DURING QUESTIONING, PRESENTATION NOT OVERLY IMPRESSIVE, PARTICULARLY SINCE POLEMAN CHOOSES TO REMAIN SEATED AND GIVE SHORT INFORMAL COMMENTS TO FOLLOW-UP ON GASSER'S RELATIVELY WELL REHEARSED PERFORMANCE. ALTHOUGH POLEMAN'S REMARKS ARE GOOD, INESCAPABLE IMPRESSION, WHETHER FAIR OR NOT, IS THAT HE DIDN'T BOTHER TO PREPARE ANYTHING FOR THE OCCASION. HOWEVER, PROGRAM WAS USEFUL AND MODERATELY SUCCESSFUL. IN HINDSIGHT, WE WOULD INVITE MORE PEOPLE CONCERNED WITH POLITICAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT OF FOOD PRODUCTION AND ATTEMPT TO STEER DISCUSSION AWAY FROM MORE TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF PROBLEM.
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